

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PALERM 00381 101246Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00  
PA-02 ICA-20 SP-02 /047 W  
-----069297 101846Z /53

R 101110Z APR 78  
FM AMCONSUL PALERMO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2446  
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS PALERMO 0381

11652: NA  
TAGS: PINT, IT  
SUBJECT: MAY ADMINISTRATIVE ELECTIONS IN SICILY

1. FOLLOWING NATIONAL GOVERNMENT ACTION UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE SICILIAN REGIONAL STATUTE, THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT ON MARCH 23 DECIDED TO HOLD ADMINISTRATIVE ELCTIONS IN THE ISLAND ON MAY 14 AND MAY 28, 1978. NINETY-ONE COMMUNES, WHOSE CITY COUNCILS' MANDATES EXPIRED LAST YEAR, WILL VOTE ON MAY 14# AND 24 COMMUNES, WHOSE COUNCILS WILL EXPIRE JUNE 1978, WILL VOTE ON MAY 28. THOUGH THE 115 COMMUNES HAVE A TOTAL POPULATION OF 743,440, 63 WITH A TOTAL POPULATION OF 166,091, WILL VOTE UNDER THE MAJORITY SYSTEM WHICH FAVORS HYBRID ALLIANCES WHICH MASK INDIVIDUAL PARTY STRENGTHS. VOTING UNDER THE PROPORTIONAL SYSTEM, THEREFORE, ARE 52 COMMUNES WITH A TOTAL POPULATION OF 577,349. OF THESE (AND BY OUR ESTIMATE, SINCE ACCURATE STATISTICS ARE PRESENTLY LACKING), SOME 350,000 VOTERS AMOUNTING TO 12 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL SICILIAN ELECTORATE OF APPROXIMATELY THREE MILLION WILL VOTE UNDER THE PROPORTIONAL SYSTEM THEREBY PERMITTING MORE ACCURATE MEASUREMENT OF INDIVIDUAL PARTY STRENGTHS.

2. NO PROVINCIAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD IN SICILY, NOR WILL ANY PROVINCIAL CAPITAL GO TO THE POLLS. GELA, WITH A POPU-  
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PAGE 02 PALERM 00381 101246Z

LATION OF 67,000, WILL BE THE LARGEST SICILIAN COMMUNE TO HOLD ELECTIONS. COLLINS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPORTS, PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS, ELECTION FORECASTS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Film Number:** D780154-0280  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MAY ADMINISTRATIVE ELECTIONS IN SICILY  
**TAGS:** PINT, IT  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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